



A. Lorris Betz, M.D., Ph.D.
Academia

Over the course of nearly 30 years and over a hundred peer-reviewed papers, Dr. Betz has come to be distinguished both nationally and internationally as a pioneer in the study of the blood-brain barrier and brain membrane permeability. In 1978, for example, Drs. Betz and Goldstein published the seminal paper demonstrating that the endothelial cells lining cerebral blood vessels possess the special property of polarity, a discovery that was key to understanding limitations on the delivery of drugs to the brain. More recently, as Senior Vice President for Health Sciences, Dr. Betz has had an enormous impact on the University of Utah, and thereby on the state of Utah, by aggressively leading the drive to expand with two new research buildings, an education building, and the Huntsman Cancer Hospital, as well as significant growth in the volume of research grants and contracts, making the Health Sciences Center the ninth largest employer in the state today.